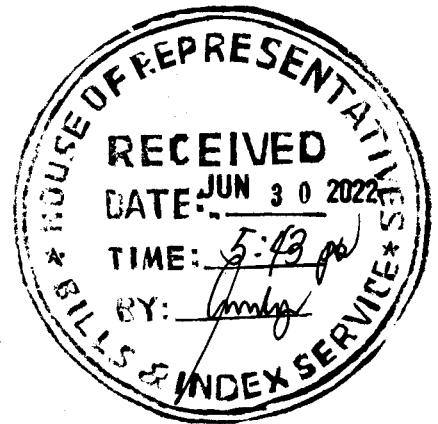


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 463



Introduced by Hon. **WILTER YAP PALMA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to re-nationalize the Imelda District Hospital situated within the Municipality of Imelda, Zamboanga Sibugay from the Local Government Unit (LGU) to the National Government. As a result, this Act shall mandate the Imelda District Hospital be placed under the direct control, management, and supervision of the Department of Health (DOH). This is in pursuant to the Constitutional mandate of the State to protect and promote the right to health of every citizen as well as make essential goods, social services and most importantly, access to affordable healthcare for all.

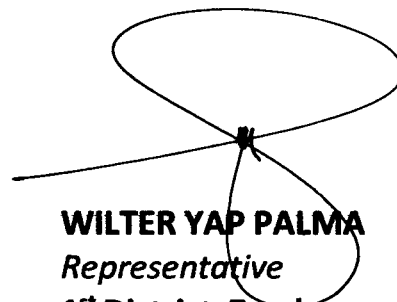
In fact, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health consciousness among them". Moreover, Article XIII, Section 11, states that "The state shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underdeveloped, sick, elderly, disabled, women and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers."

Furthermore, the Local Government Code of 1991 was promulgated with the objective of providing for more responsive and accountable services to the public. In pursuit thereof, crucial services such as healthcare were devolved to the LGU's. As a result, government hospitals within the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay were placed under the care and supervision of the provincial government.

While the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay has an ample amount of healthcare facilities and an immense medical program, the advent of the COVID-19 Pandemic has greatly accosted the capability of our facilities to provide adequate or sufficient medical services to the Sibugaynons. As such, the rapid rise of patients within the province together with the lack of resources for the procurement of diagnostic tools, competent personnel, and bed capacities have pushed the Province to its absolute limit. In extreme cases, patients as well as those who are in desperate need of immediate medical attention have no choice but to endure dreadful travel conditions to other nearby facilities while suffering from intense pain and in extreme cases, death.

As a result, it is high time that we seize the control, management, and supervision of the Imelda District Hospital to the Department of Health.

In view of the forgoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop at the top, a vertical line descending from its center, and a horizontal line crossing the vertical line near the bottom. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

WILTER YAP PALMA
Representative
1st District, Zamboanga Sibugay

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

NINETEENTH (19th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 463

Introduced by **HON. WILTER YAP PALMA**

AN ACT

RE-NATIONALIZING IMELDA DISTRICT HOSPITAL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF IMELDA, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY, PLACING UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL, MANAGEMENT, AND SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1. Renationalization of Imelda District Hospital** – The Imelda
2 District Hospital in the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay is hereby re-nationalized;
3 increasing its operating fund; upgrading its medical equipment and facilities; and
4 constructing the needed infrastructure under the direct control, management, and
5 supervision of the Department of Health.

6

7 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy** – It is hereby declared policy of the State that it
8 shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health
9 consciousness among them. Further, the state shall adopt an integrated and

10 comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make
11 essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at
12 affordable cost.

13

14 **SEC. 3. Objectives** – The objective of this Act is to adopt an integrated and
15 comprehensive quality health services that will cater indigent patients in the nine
16 (9) Municipalities of the First District of Zamboanga Sibugay as well as its
17 neighboring municipalities.

18

19 **SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations** – For the purpose of
20 compliance of the Act, the Department of Health shall promulgate the necessary
21 rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

22

23 **SEC. 5. Appropriations** – The amount necessary for the effective
24 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's
25 appropriations for the organizational adjustment fund. Thereafter, such amount as
26 may be necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the Annual
27 General Appropriations Act.

28

29 **SEC. 6. Separability Clause** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
30 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby
31 shall remain in force and effect.

32

33 **SEC. 7. Repealing Clause** – All laws, executive orders, decrees, issuances,
34 rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
35 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

36

37 **SEC. 8. Effectivity** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
38 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

39

40 **Approved,**